The associations SCORE (Sewage analysis CORe group Europe, COST Action ES1307) and The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) invite you to join the third transdisciplinary conference Testing the Waters 2017

**Wastewater-based epidemiology: current applications and future perspectives**

**Conference Themes**

**Bridging the fields of wastewater-based epidemiology with classical epidemiology**

Wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE) is an increasingly applied approach for monitoring lifestyle habits of an entire community. The concept was proposed as a new non-intrusive tool to evaluate the use of illicit and misused drugs in a community. It appeared soon a useful approach to complement and extend the existing epidemiological toolkit for estimating illicit drug use in a population. Europe-wide studies are conducted yearly since 2011 involving in 2016 up to 60 cities not only in Europe but also in Australia, Canada, and Asia.

Current research aims to bring together wastewater analysis and drug epidemiology by sharing knowledge from different disciplines. A multidisciplinary participation is highly required and the event is therefore organised back-to-back to [Lisbon Addictions 2017](http://www.lisbonaddictions.eu).

**New applications and future perspectives**

Wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE) was also successfully applied to evaluate the use of new psychoactive substances, counterfeit medicines, alcohol, tobacco and is further applied to analyze biomarkers related to the health status of communities, and to estimate exposure to environmental and food contaminants.

The potential of WBE to explore the health status of a community is becoming clear and very promising, and novel fields of investigation are likely to be explored successfully.

**Targeted audience Invited**

Drug use epidemiologists, analytical and environmental chemists, environmental engineers, pharmacologists, toxicologists, experts in forensics and stakeholders from public health sector, addiction and prevention institutions.

Call for abstracts will be available soon on [www.score-cost.eu](http://www.score-cost.eu)